



What is True Repentance?

Have you brought your sins to God?

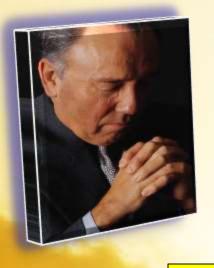
Sunday 5:00 p.m.
Tonight!





HOW TO PRAY? Use A-C-T-S

- A DORATION (the upward look)
- C ONFESSION (the inward look)
- T HANKSGIVING (the roundward look)
- <u>SUPPLICATION</u> (the *outward* look).



Teach Us To Pray Part 5

"Master, teach us how to pray even as John taught his disciples" (Lk 11:1).

PRAYER

"I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men."

<u> </u>

Remember these scriptures as you pray:

Matt 7:7 – "Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you."

<u>Jn 15:7</u> – "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatsoever you will, and it shall be done unto you."

<u>Jas 1:6-7</u> – "If any of you lacketh wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all liberally...and it shall be given unto him. But let him ask in faith, nothing doubting, for he that doubteth is like the surge of the sea driven by the wind and tossed. For let not that man thinketh he shall receive anything of the Lord."

I Jn 5:14-15 – "this is the boldness which we have toward Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us; and if we know that He heareth us whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions which we have asked of Him."

<u>Jas 4:2</u> – "ye have not because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask with selfish motives, that ye might spend it simply on your own pleasures."



THESIS:

- 1. What is Confession?
- 2. Why is it so *Important*?
- 3. The Role of Humility
- 4. What Happens when we Refuse to Confess?

What is Confession?

- Webster: "To admit or to acknowledge, as a crime, a fault or debt one has committed."
- Literally: "To say along with."

Romans 10:9-10

"If you confess with your mouth Christ as Lord, and believe ... thou shalt be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation." NASU

The "Good Confession"

- What Did God say about Jesus?
 - Mt 3:17 "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. . ."
- When you say (confess) the same thing you make the good confession!

HOW DO THESE ELEMENTS FIT TOGETHER?

- A DORATION
- C ONFESSION
- T HANKSGIVING
- S UPPLICATION (Intercession)
- S ELF (Petitions)

How Do These Fit Together?

- You can't sincerely praise and adore God without being humbled (Ps 8).
 - -Isa 6:5 -- " Woe is me, for I am ruined! I am a man of <u>unclean</u>
 <u>lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips</u>; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

Attitude of Humility (Helplessness) is vital

- Jas 4:10 "Humble yourselves..."
- I Peter 5:5 "God resists the proud..."
- Isa 57:15 "I dwell in him who is of a contrite and humble spirit."
- Ps 9:12, Ps 10:17 & Ps 37:17

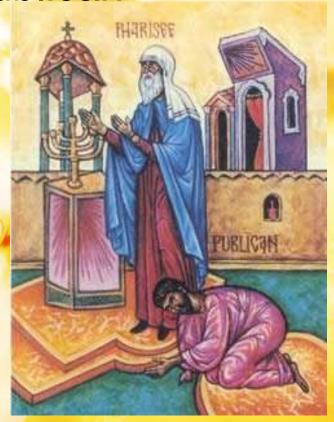


Humility is the basis of appealing to God's heart!

The Pharisee and the Publican



LK 18: 10-14



The Proud Pharisee . .

Instead of . .



He . . .

- Praising God
- Confessing his own sin
- Humbly thanking God
- Offering supplication

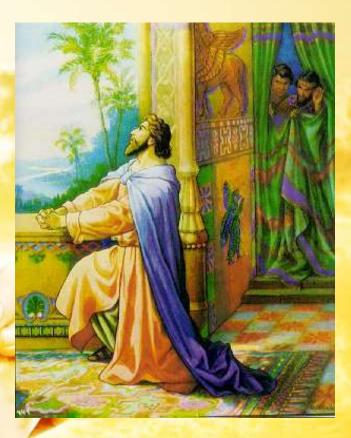
- Praised himself!
- Confessed sins /others
- Compared himself to this "wretched publican."
- He went for the put down.

2nd Cor. 10:12

A Great Example..

Daniel 9:3-19 Lord, forgive...

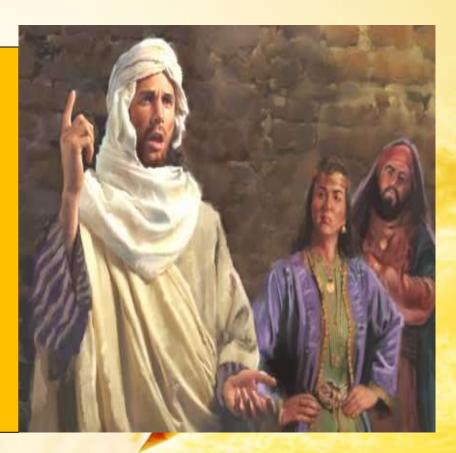
- 1. We have sinned.
- 2. Committed iniquity.
- 3. Done wickedly.
- 4. Rebelled against thee
- 5. Departed from thy word
- 6. Not hearkened unto thy servants.



Daniel

A Great Example..

Neh 1: 4-7 vs 6
"I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's house, have committed against you. We have acted wickedly.."

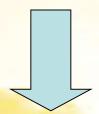


Nehemiah

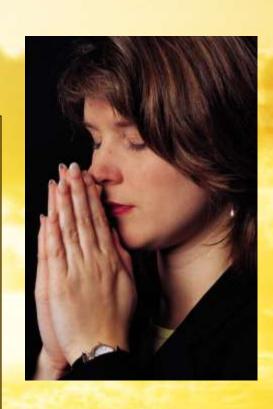
What is our attitude?

- "If I have done anything wrong..."
- "I'm sorry…"
- Better: "I was wrong for _____ will you forgive . .?"
- Private prayers . . wrestle with and confess our weaknesses....ask for help!
- Jas 5:13 "Confess <u>our faults</u> one to another, and pray ye for each other..."

What happens when we refuse to confess?



Prov 28:9 "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law of the Lord, even His prayer shall be an abomination."



Attitude of Heart in Prayer

 Ps 139:23-24 "Search me Oh God, and know my Heart, try me and know my thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in me. Lead me in the everlasting way."



What happens when we refuse to confess?

- We will not prosper! Prov 28:13 "He who conceals His sin does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy."
- He will not hear! Ps 66:18 "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."

Prayer and SinDon't go Together!

- Jesus: "You ought to pray always" Lk
 18:1 Why?
 - –Lk 22:40 "That ye might not enter into temptation."
- Why is that so effective?
 - Either prayer will drive you to <u>repentance</u> or <u>sin will drive you from prayer!</u>